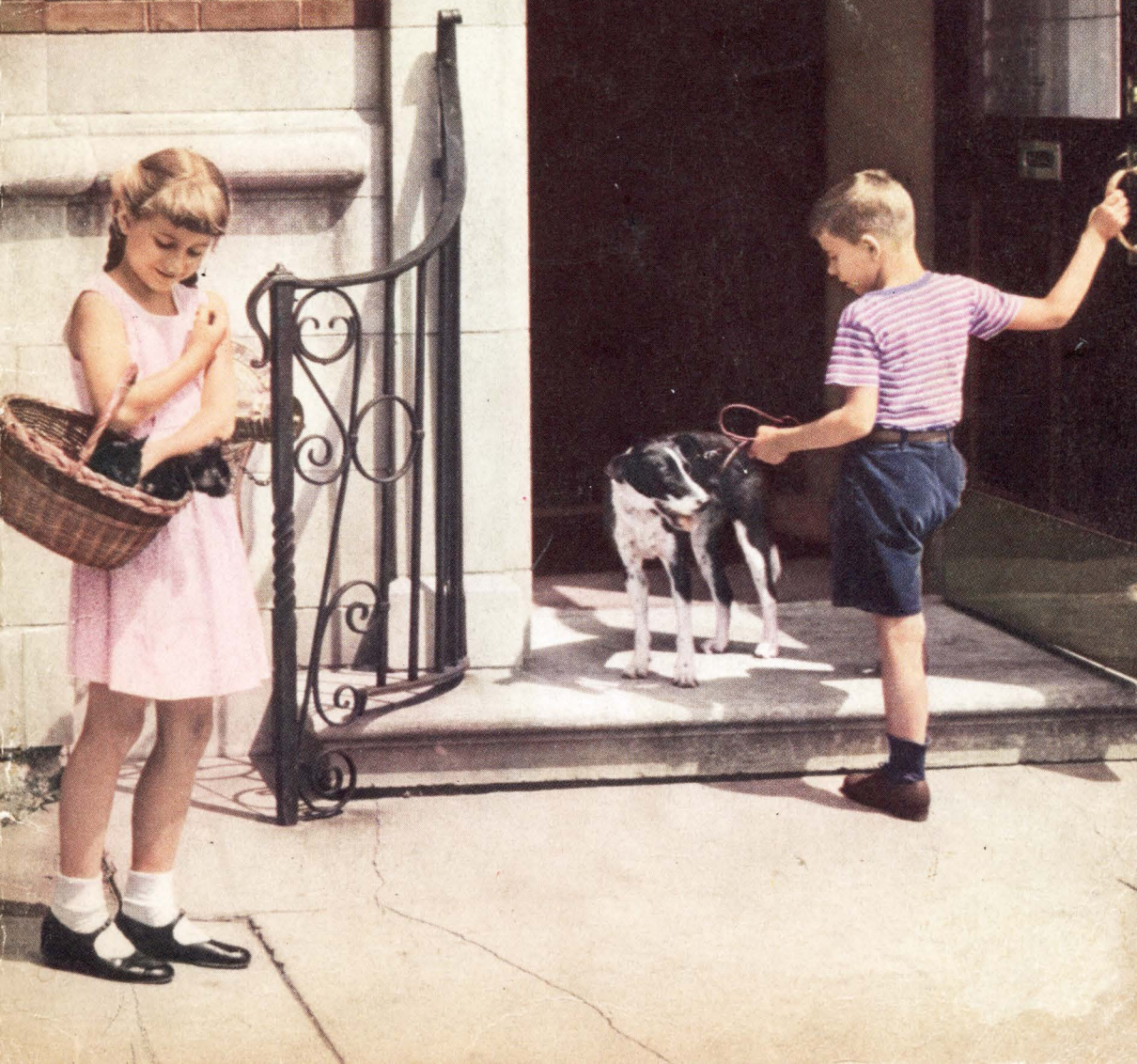
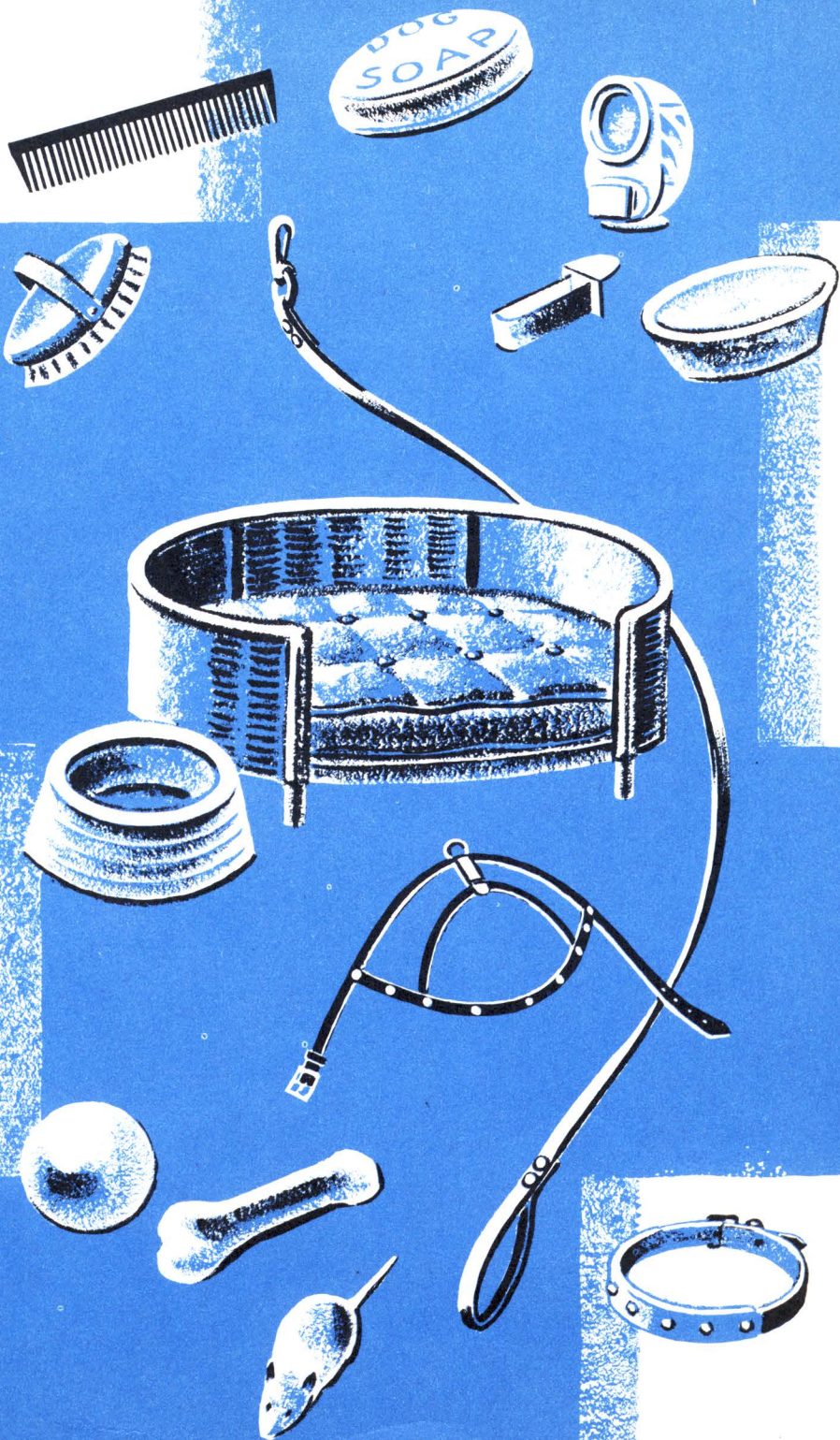


The **PET SHOW**





THE BASIC SCIENCE EDUCATION SERIES

THE PET SHOW

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Primary

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The Pet Show

"Let us hurry. We can go in this door," Jane said to her mother. "The sign here says, TO THE PET SHOW."

Jane was excited. She was excited because this was a very special day. Her mother was taking her to the pet show.

Jane did not have a pet of her own. She wanted one. She and her mother were going to find out what kind of pet Jane wanted.

The pet show was wonderful. There were dogs and cats. There were canaries and rabbits. There were guinea pigs, too.

"Oh! Mother! We're going to have lots of fun," cried Jane. "Where shall we begin?"

"We will look at every pet," said her mother. "Then perhaps you will know what kind of pet you want."



The Dogs at the Show

There were many kinds of dogs at the show. There were Scotty dogs. There was a shepherd dog, and there were bulldogs. There were black cocker spaniels, and red cocker spaniels.

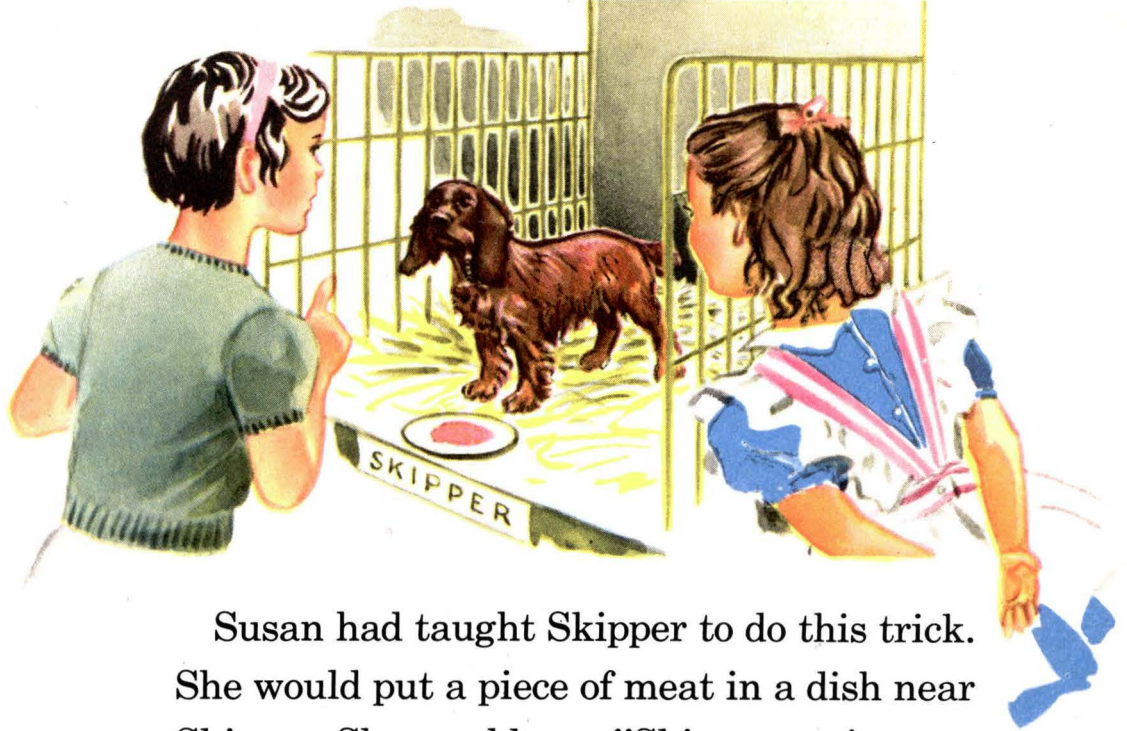
There were wire-haired fox terriers, and great Danes. There was a beautiful black and white English setter. There was a collie dog with eight puppies. There were many other kinds of dogs.

Some of the dogs had long hair. Some of them had short hair. Many of the dogs were small. Some were large. Each grown-up dog had its own cage.

Some of the dogs could do tricks. The shepherd dog could play dead. The boy who owned the dog would say, "Poor dead Shep. Poor dead Shep." Then Shep would lie on the floor as still as he could. He would lie there until the boy said, "Shep, wake up! Shep, wake up!" Then Shep would jump up. Sometimes Shep got a small piece of meat after he had done the trick. He always got a pat on the head.

Jane liked the tricks of one of the brown cocker spaniels. This dog belonged to a girl named Susan. She called her dog Skipper.





Susan had taught Skipper to do this trick. She would put a piece of meat in a dish near Skipper. She would say, "Skipper, wait, your dinner is not paid for." Skipper would not touch the meat. In a minute Susan would say, "All right, Skipper, I have paid for your dinner." Then Skipper would eat the meat.

"I think I would like a dog," said Jane after she watched Skipper do his trick.

Someone at the pet show gave away small books that told how to take care of pets. Jane and her mother took one of the books. The book told many things about how to take care of dogs.

How To Feed a Dog

Dogs need the right kind of food just as boys and girls do. Young puppies get milk from their mother. They get milk from her for many weeks after they are born. They get milk many times each day.

Puppies will soon learn to drink milk from a dish, too. After their mother stops feeding them, they have to be fed four or five times a day for a while.

They need other things to eat besides milk. They need meat. Some of it may be raw and some may be cooked. They need cereals. They need vegetables, too.





Dogs like bones. Large bones are good for dogs. Small bones are not good for them. Small bones sometimes break into sharp pieces. The sharp pieces may hurt the dog if he eats them. Do not give your dog chicken bones or fish bones to eat. But big bones are good for your dog if you do not give him too many. They help to keep his teeth clean and healthy.

Grown-up dogs should have one or two meals each day. They may have breakfast in the morning and dinner in the evening. The breakfast should be small. The dinner should be larger. It is better not to feed a dog at other times of the day. Then he will be hungry when you give him food in the morning and evening.

Not all dogs should be fed the same kinds of food. Some dogs should not have as much meat as others. Some dogs need more vegetables than others.

Big dogs need more food than little dogs do. Some kinds of dogs eat more than other kinds of dogs do. Dogs do not like to eat the same kind of food every day. They like to have different kinds of food.

Your dog needs clean, fresh water just as you do. Be sure to keep a dish for water clean. Put fresh water in it every day.





How To Take Care of a Dog

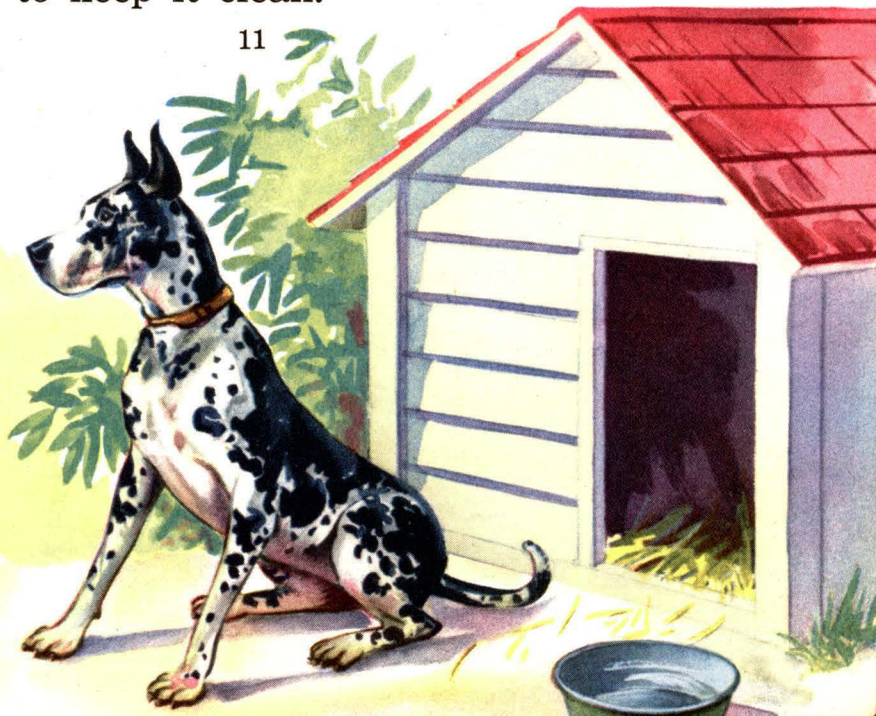
Dogs need exercise. If your dog lives in the house, you should take him outdoors often. Let him run and play. Dogs like to play with balls. They like to run. Dogs cannot keep well if they cannot get exercise.

Sometimes your dog needs a bath. Give him a bath in warm water. Wash him with soap and water. Use dog soap. Be sure all of the soap is out of his fur. Then rub his fur dry with a large cloth. Don't let the dog go into a cold place until he is dry. Don't let him go outdoors until he is dry. After his fur is dry, brush it and comb it until it is smooth.

Don't wash your dog too often. If you do, his skin may get very dry.

A dog needs a good bed. If your dog sleeps in the house, he needs a box or a basket to sleep in. Put a blanket or an old coat in the basket or box. Always keep the dog's bed clean.

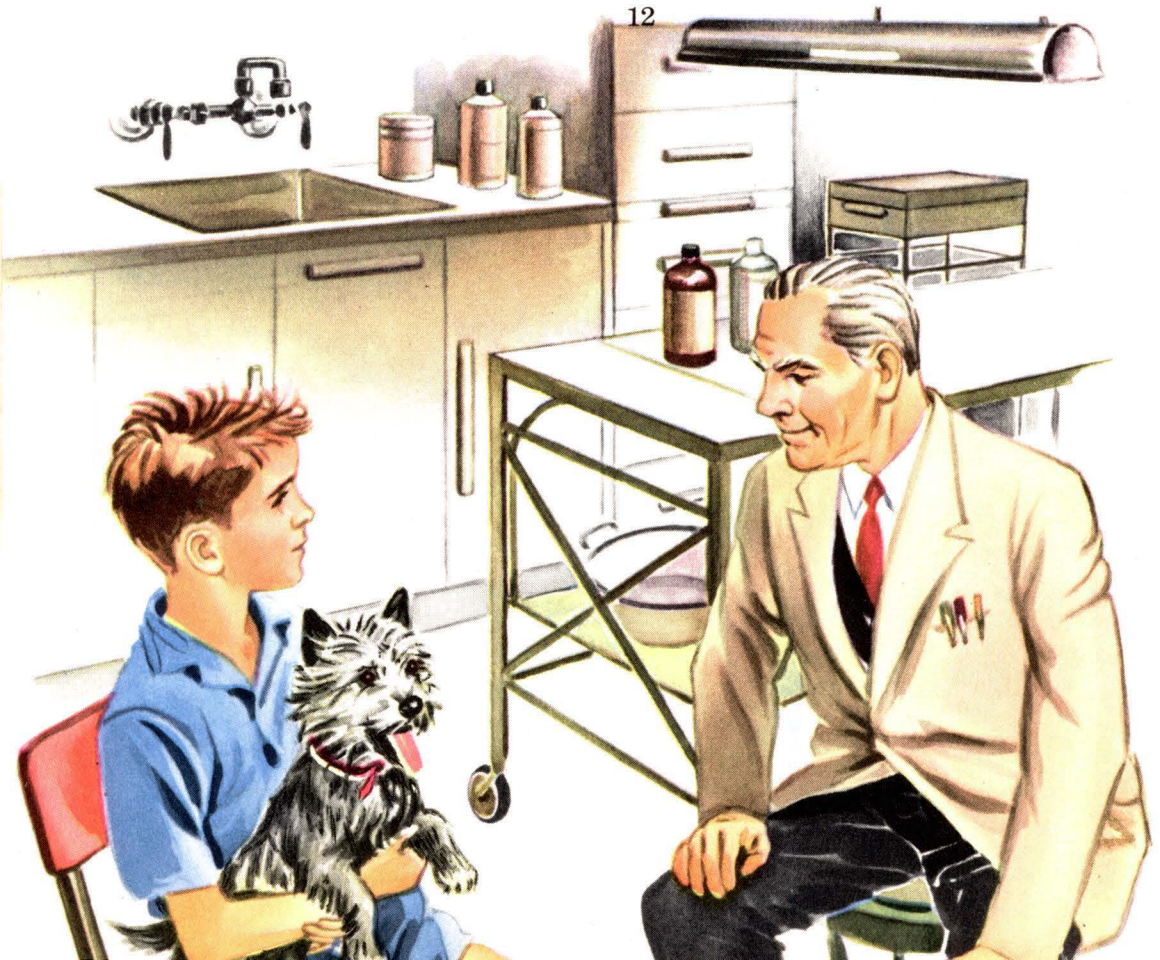
If your dog sleeps out of doors, he needs a good doghouse with a bed in it. Large dogs are often kept out of doors in doghouses. The doghouse should be dry. It should be built so that the wind cannot blow through it. The floor should not touch the ground. The bed may be made of straw or blankets. Be sure to keep it clean.



If your dog gets sick, find out how to take care of him and make him comfortable. An animal doctor will help you. The animal doctor has studied dogs and knows how to take care of them.

If your dog gets very sick, take him to an animal hospital. Sick animals are taken care of at animal hospitals.

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Remember that your dog needs your care. He cannot say, "I am hungry. You forgot to feed me." He cannot say, "The water in my dish is dirty and too warm to drink." He cannot tell you that his bed is dirty or that he needs exercise.

You must remember to take good care of your dog.

Dogs can learn to do many different kinds of tricks. They can learn to sit up and lie down and roll over. They can learn to do many other tricks if you help them.

The Rabbits at the Show

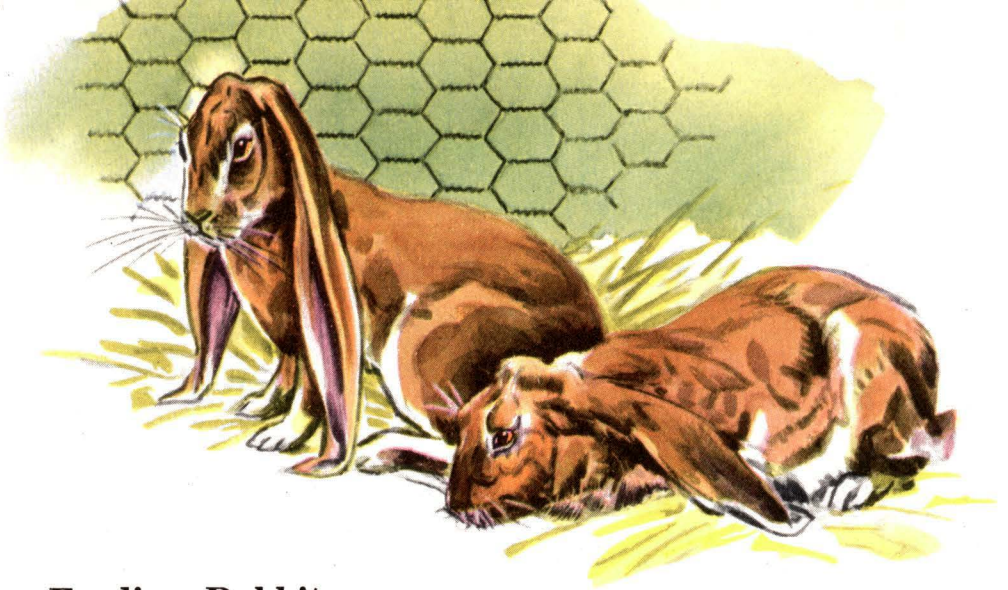
There were three kinds of rabbits at the pet show. There were Angora rabbits. They had long fur. Some of the Angora rabbits were white. One of the white Angora rabbits had fur seven inches long!

There were lop-eared rabbits. They had very long ears. One lop-eared rabbit had the longest ears in the pet show. Her ears were sixteen inches long!

There were two beautiful Dutch rabbits in the show. They were small rabbits. They were eating carrots. Many people stopped to look at the little Dutch rabbits. But the rabbits just wiggled their noses and kept on eating.

When Jane saw the little Dutch rabbits, she said, "Now I think I would like a pet rabbit."

The book about pets told many things to do in taking care of rabbits.



Feeding Rabbits

Baby rabbits get milk from their mother just as puppies do. They drink milk often when they are young. After they are older, they should have two meals each day. They need breakfast in the morning and dinner in the evening.

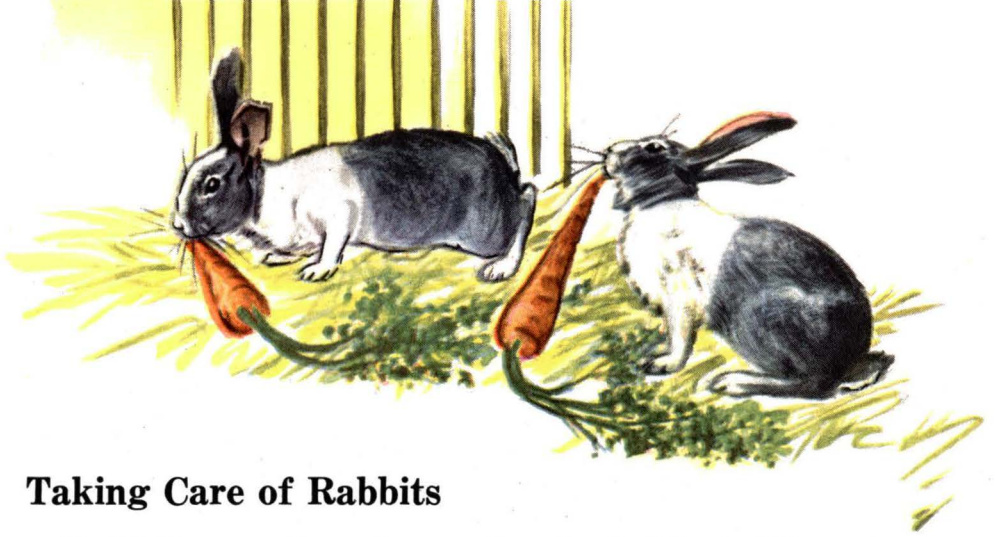
In the morning they should eat vegetables. They will eat carrots, lettuce, beets, and potato peelings. They will eat clover and grass. The vegetables and clover and grass should not be wet when you give them to rabbits. In the evening the rabbits should have grain. They like oats and wheat.

Do not feed rabbits too much food. Some rabbits are kept in a pen where they cannot exercise very much. Then they do not need as much food as they do when they can run about.

Give rabbits fresh water every day. Put it in a heavy dish that will not tip over.

Do not leave food in the rabbits' pen. Take out the food that they do not eat. Always be sure the vegetables are dry.





Taking Care of Rabbits

Rabbits need a clean, dry bed. They like a bed of dry leaves or hay or straw. Keep the bed clean.

A rabbit's cage should be large. Rabbits need fresh air. Part of the cage should be made of wire to let in air. The cage should be made so that it is easy to keep clean.

Rabbits need exercise. After they are tame you may let them get out of the cage to run about. They will soon learn to come back to their cage after they have had their exercise.

Rabbits are friendly. You may lift them and pet them. Lift them by the loose skin on their backs. Put one hand under them when you lift. Do not lift them by their ears.



Young Rabbits

A mother rabbit makes a good bed for her babies. She puts fur in her nest. She pulls out some of her own fur to make the bed for the babies. A mother rabbit must be kept quiet while her babies are young.

Baby rabbits are very helpless. They have only a little fur.

After about nine days the little rabbits' eyes open. Little rabbits soon grow strong on milk that they get from their mother.

A mother rabbit needs much milk when she has a family of babies. She will eat bread and milk.

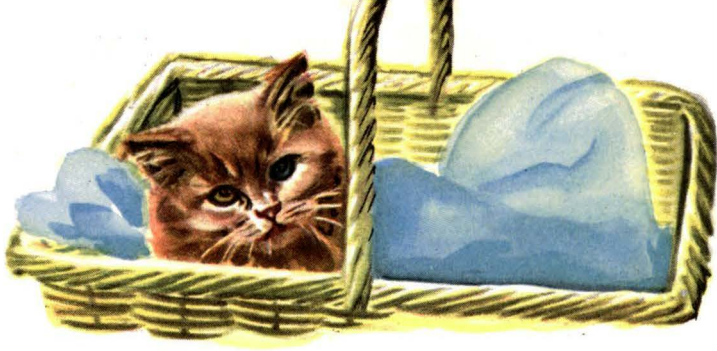
The Cats at the Show

There were many cats at the pet show. There were big cats and little cats, black cats and white cats, and old cats and kittens. There was a beautiful Angora cat. It had long hair. There was a manx cat like the one in the picture. It had no tail. Its back legs looked a little like a rabbit's legs.

A boy named Robert brought his pet cat to the show. He kept his pet in a covered basket. He played that he was at the circus. He called, "Come and see a rose-colored cat. A beautiful rose-colored cat."

"Now what do you suppose a rose-colored cat would look like?" asked Jane. "Let us go and see."





Everyone laughed when Robert opened the basket. There sat a beautiful yellow cat. "Some roses are yellow and so is my cat," he explained.

Then Robert said, "And now, ladies and gentlemen, look at the strange eyes of the rose-colored cat."

Jane and her mother looked at the yellow cat's eyes. What do you think they saw? One of the cat's eyes was blue! The other eye was yellow!

Jane's mother explained to her that many cats have eyes of different colors.

Jane was very excited when she saw the rose-colored cat. She said to her mother, "I think I would like a cat."

The book about pets told how to take care of cats.

How To Feed a Cat

Cats like milk. Kittens get milk from the mother cat when they are very young. Cats like bread and milk. They like fish and cooked meat and raw meat. Cut the meat into small pieces. Be sure there are no bones in the fish.

Cats will eat vegetables if the vegetables are mixed with the meat or fish. A cat may eat two meals a day. If a cat does not eat all of its supper at once, leave it. The food will probably be gone in the morning.

Cats sometimes eat at night. Almost all cats like mice and rats. They often hunt for them at night.

Be sure that your cat has fresh water to drink. Give the cat fresh water every day.



Taking Care of a Cat

A cat needs good care. A cat needs a box or a basket to sleep in. A piece of coat or blanket makes a good bed. Put the box or basket in a warm place. Cats should not be put out of doors at night unless they always stay out of doors.

Cats need exercise just as dogs do. Let them run out of doors every day. You do not need to give a cat that has short hair a bath.

Your cat will give itself a bath with its tongue. If the cat has long hair, it sometimes needs a bath with soap and water.

Cats shed their hair in the fall and in the spring. Late in the fall a thick coat grows. This keeps the cat warm in winter. In the spring this thick hair comes out, and a new, thin coat grows. This is the cat's summer coat. If you comb and brush a cat's coat, the loose hairs will come out.

The Canaries at the Show

There were four canaries at the pet show. They sang and sang. A boy named Peter got first prize for his canary. Peter's canary was named Summertime. The canary was a beautiful singer.

Summertime was very tame. Peter put some seeds in his hand. Then he opened the cage door and put his hand in. Summertime hopped on Peter's thumb and ate the seeds in his hand.

When Jane saw Summertime eating from Peter's hand, she said, "Oh, Mother, wouldn't it be fun to have a canary like Summertime?"

The book about pets told how to take care of canaries.

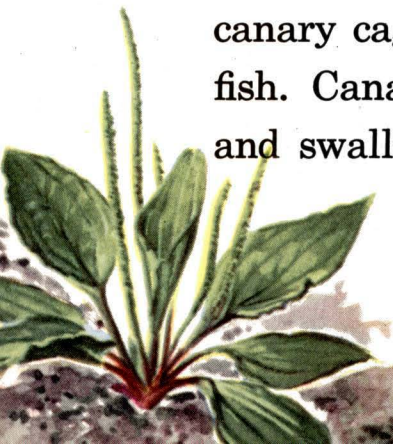


How To Feed a Canary

Canaries like seeds to eat. They like many different kinds of seeds. A box of bird seed from the grocery store has many different kinds of seeds in it. The birds break the hard outside part of the seeds and eat the inside. Their beaks are strong.

Canaries like green things to eat. The green food must be fresh and not wet. They like the kind of plant in the picture on this page. It is called plantain. It is easy to find. It grows in fields and along fences. The birds like to eat the green seeds of the plantain.

Canary birds will eat apples. Sometimes they will eat raw potato. They will eat dry bread, too. Put a piece of cuttlebone in the canary cage. Cuttlebone comes from cuttlefish. Canaries peck off pieces of the bone and swallow them.





How To Take Care of a Canary

Canaries need fresh, clean water to drink. They need water to take a bath in, too. Put the water for a bath in a saucer. Set it in the bottom of the cage. The water should be warmed a little. The bird will soon hop into it and begin to splash. It is fun to watch a bird take a bath. Some canaries take a bath every day.

Canaries get new feathers every summer. Their old feathers come out, and their new feathers come in. At first only a few feathers come out. A few new ones grow in. Then more feathers come out and more grow in. At last the bird has a new coat. Canaries do not sing very much when they are getting new feathers.

Canaries should never be left where there is a wind. Never put them in a window or any other place where wind can blow on them. Canaries may catch cold if they are left in the wind. Then they cannot sing.

Canaries should not be left in bright sunshine for long. Sometimes after a bath they may be left in the sun until they are dry.

Remember These Rules

Use round perches in the bird cage. Put the perches so the birds can sit on them and reach their food and water.

Keep the cage and the perches clean. Keep clean sand on the bottom of the cage.

Don't put the cage in the wind.

If you have a canary, be sure to take good care of it. The canary needs your care. It cannot say, "My cage is dirty. I am hungry. I am thirsty. I want lettuce." You must remember to take care of your pet canary. Then it will probably live a long time.

The Guinea Pigs at the Show

John brought his guinea pigs to the pet show. He played a joke on his friends. He had two guinea pigs in a cage. When people came to see them, John said, "If you pick up my guinea pigs by the tail, smoke will come out of their eyes!"

Most people only laughed. They knew the joke. But some people had never seen a guinea pig. They wanted to see the smoke. Everyone laughed when one boy tried to pick the pets up by the tail. Do you know why? Guinea pigs have no tails!

Guinea pigs are very interesting pets. They are gentle. They are many different colors. They are easy to take care of.

The book about pets told how to feed guinea pigs and take care of them.

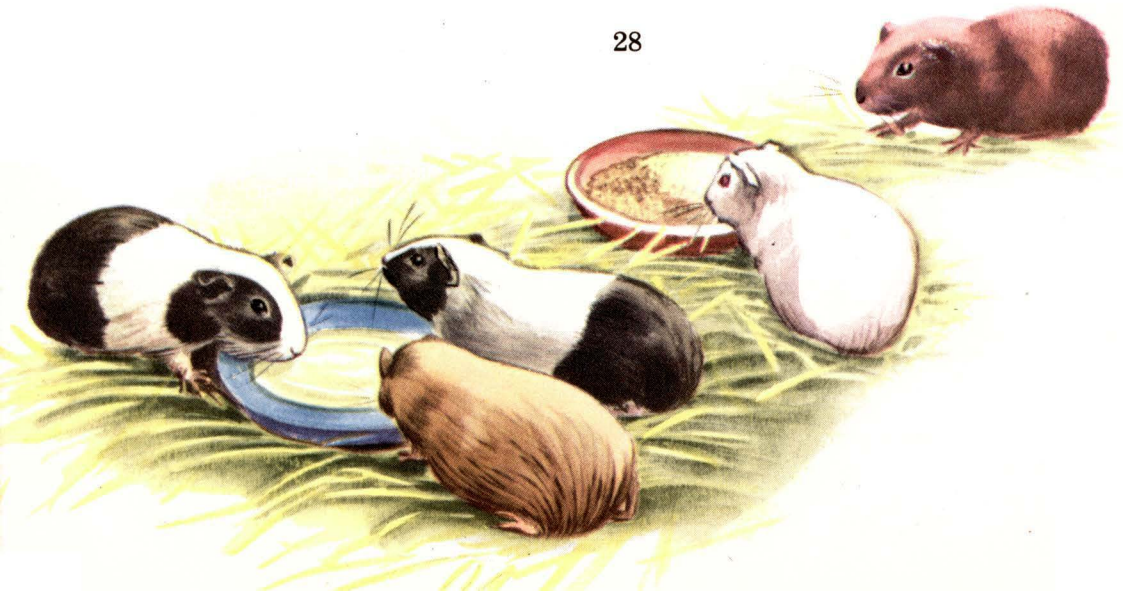


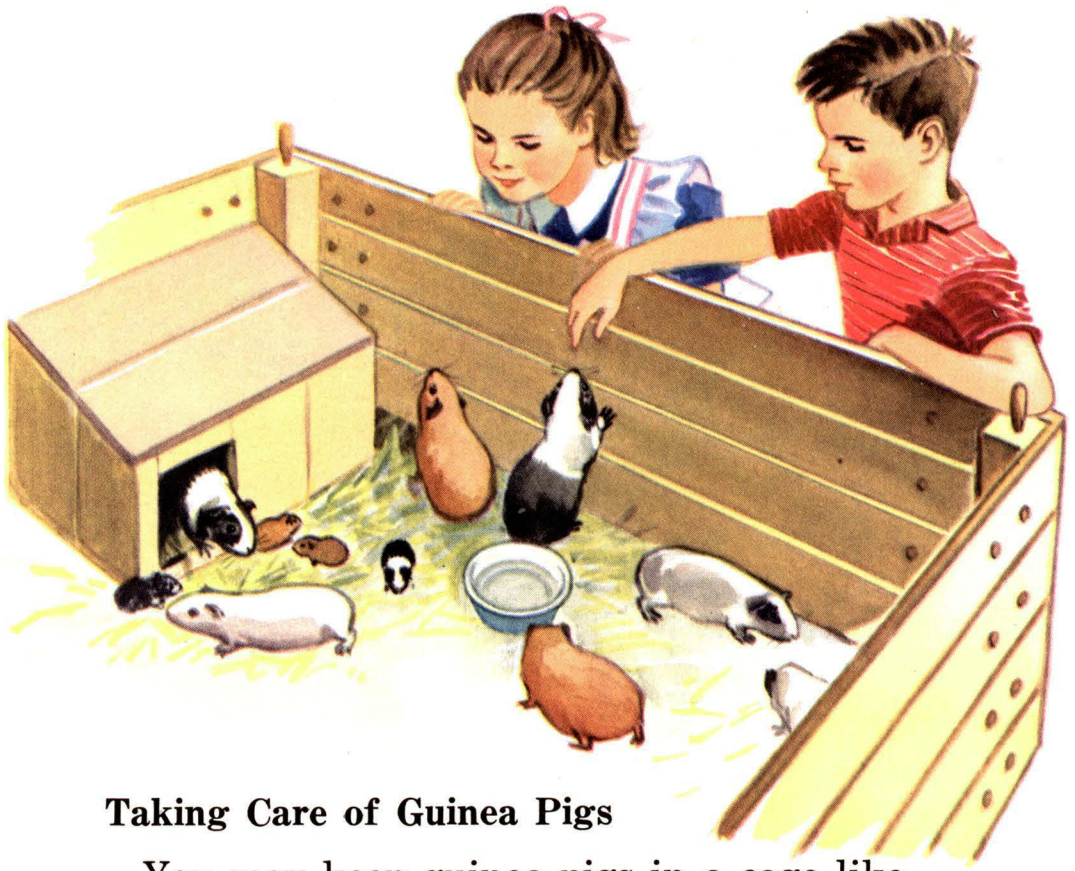
Feeding Guinea Pigs

Guinea pigs eat the same kinds of food that rabbits eat. They eat carrots and oats and bran. They eat fresh green things. They eat hay. They eat clover. They drink milk.

Young guinea pigs get milk from their mothers. They begin to eat carrots and other things in a very few days after they are born. They can run about in the cage when they are only a few days old.

Guinea pigs need water to drink. Keep the water fresh and clean. Some people say that guinea pigs do not drink. That is not true. They have to have water to drink.

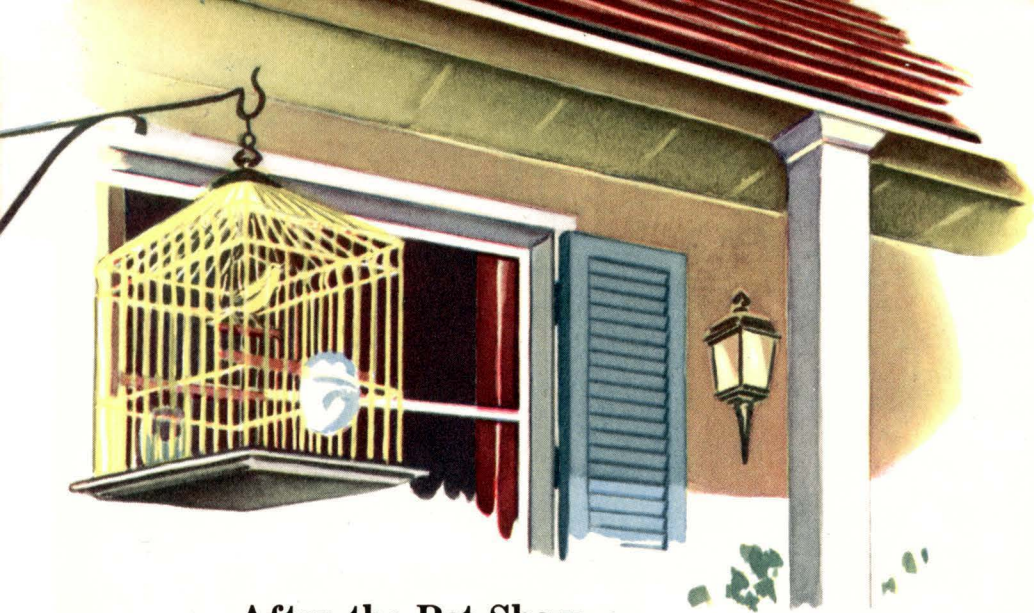




Taking Care of Guinea Pigs

You may keep guinea pigs in a cage like the one you keep rabbits in. Guinea pigs are very clean animals. They need a clean, dry bed to lie on. They need a clean, dry cage.

A box in the cage will be a good place for the guinea pigs to sleep in. Make a hole in one side of the box for them to go in and out. Put clean hay in the box for a bed. Keep the box clean.



After the Pet Show

"Now what kind of a pet do you think you would like?" asked Jane's mother as they walked home from the pet show.

"I cannot decide," said Jane. "I would like a dog because I could teach it to do tricks. But I would like a kitten, too. It would be fun to have a canary. I like to hear a canary sing. Sometimes I think I would like a rabbit. A rabbit's fur is so soft. But the guinea pigs are so cute."

"Jane, I think you would like a whole houseful of pets," said her mother. "But you must choose just one."

"I wonder how I can make up my mind," said Jane. She thought and thought. "I would like a dog," she said. "But our house is very small. There is no place for a dog to play. I would like rabbits or guinea pigs, but I have no cage for them.

"I haven't a cage for a canary, either. I think I would rather have a little kitten than any other pet. I could take better care of a kitten."

"Then we will try to find a kitten for you," said her mother.



The Lost Tabby Cat

The day after the pet show Jane was on her way home from school. She was almost home when she saw something fastened to a tree. It was a sign. This is what it said.

LOST

A black and gray Tabby Cat
with tiger stripes. Not full
grown. Please return this
cat to 57 Main Street.

I will show you where to get
a baby kitten if you want one.

Jane read the sign. She thought of the beautiful cats she had seen at the pet show. "I wish I could find the lost tabby cat," she thought as she walked on. "I wonder where it could be."

She was still wondering about the lost cat as she opened the door of her house.

"Jane, is that you?" her mother called from the kitchen.

"Yes, Mother," said Jane.

"Come out here. I have a surprise for you," her mother said.

Jane ran to the kitchen. There was a black and gray tabby cat. It had tiger stripes. It was drinking milk from a saucer.

"Oh! Mother! Where did you get it?" asked Jane as she watched the tabby cat drink milk.





"She came up on the back porch. She was hungry, and I gave her this milk to drink. I think she is lost," said Jane's mother.

Then Jane remembered the sign on the tree.

"I don't think she's lost. I think she's found!" cried Jane. Then she told her mother about the sign on the tree.

"Let us hurry and take her home," said Jane's mother.

Jane Gets a Pet

Then what do you think happened? Jane and her mother took the lost tabby cat home. A little girl named Mary was very happy to have her pet back. She took Jane and her mother to her grandmother's house next door. There they found four beautiful kittens in a basket with a mother cat.

"You may have one of these kittens as soon as they are old enough to leave their mother," Mary told Jane.

On the way home Jane was very happy. She said, "I am glad I saw the sign on the tree. Isn't it lucky that the tabby cat came to our house?"



Do You Know Now?

1. There are many kinds of animals that make good pets.

2. Animals need good care when they are kept as pets.

3. Pets must have clean places to stay and must have good food and clean water.

4. Different kinds of pets need different kinds of food.

5. When they are babies, some animals get milk from their mothers.

6. Some animals take care of their young for a long time.

See for Yourself

1. Bring a pet to school. Have a clean place for it to live. Keep it a few days. Watch it carefully.

2. Keep a record of some of the interesting things your pet does.

3. Watch your pet to see how it eats, how it keeps clean, and how it drinks.

